

CLAIMS:

1. An amusement ride including:
a non-continuous track supported over a curved path and extending between a
5 high end and a low end, the track including at least two independent running rails,
at least one carrier arranged to carry at least one rider on each running rail of the
track,
the carriers including attachment means arranged to slidably engage with the
running rails to enable the carriers to descend carrying the riders from the high end to
10 the low end.
2. An amusement ride as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ride includes a mechanical
or other braking system to control the speed of the rider(s) during the descent or at the
conclusion of the ride or both.
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3. An amusement ride as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the running rails
include areas of different slope.
4. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the running
20 rails include twists.
5. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the running
rails include barrel rolls.
- 25 6. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the track is
positioned around the outside of a structure from which the track is supported.
7. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the track is
positioned inside a valley or natural feature.
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8. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the track is
positioned down the side of a hill or sloping surface.

9. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the track is supported partially or totally by cables.

5 10. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the bottom of the track is close to a means of access to the top of the track.

11. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein each carrier is slidably engaged to a running rail by at least one set of wheels.

10 12. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the carrier is lightweight.

13. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the running rails are an integral part of the track.

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14. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein not all the running rails have the same shape.

20 15. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein all the running rails have the same shape.

16. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 15 wherein there is provided a mechanical and/or electrical means to elevate the carriers to the high end of the track.

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17. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 16 wherein the riders start the ride from a platform at the top of the support structure.

30 18. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17 wherein the riders are carried in carriers in a substantially prone position.

19. An amusement ride including:

a track supported over a curved path, the track including a high point and a low point and including at least two independent running rails,

at least one carrier arranged to carry at least one rider on each running rail of the track in a substantially prone position,

the carriers including attachment means arranged to slidably engage with the running rails to enable the carriers to traverse the ride carrying the riders.

20. An amusement ride as claimed in claim 19 wherein the ride includes a mechanical or other braking system to control the speed of the rider(s) during the descent or at the conclusion of the ride or both.

21. An amusement ride as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20 wherein the running rails include areas of different slope.

22. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 21 wherein the running rails include twists.

23. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 22 wherein the running rails include barrel rolls.

24. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 23 wherein the track is positioned around the outside of a structure from which the track is supported.

25. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 24 wherein the track is positioned inside a valley or natural feature.

26. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 24 wherein the track is positioned down the side of a hill or sloping surface.

27. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 26 wherein the track is supported partially or totally by cables.

28. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 27 wherein each carrier is slidingly engaged to a running rail by at least one set of wheels.

5 29. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 28 wherein the carrier is lightweight.

30. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 29 wherein the running rails are an integral part of the track.

10 31. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 30 wherein the track includes more than two running rails.

32. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 31 wherein not all the running rails have the same shape.

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33. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 31 wherein all the running rails have the same shape.

20 34. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 33 wherein the track includes mechanical means to elevate the riders from the low point of the track to the high point of the track from where the riders descend to the low end of the track under gravity.

25 35. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 18 wherein the rides descend the track from the high end of the track to the low end of the track under gravity.

36. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 18 wherein the carriers are propelled along the track by electrical and/or mechanical means.

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37. An amusement ride as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 33 wherein the carriers are propelled along the track by electrical and or mechanical means.